

August 18, 2016

State of Illinois

Bruce Rauner, Governor

Illinois Department of Transportation

Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT:

Gianna Urgo 312.814.4693 Guy Tridgell 312.793.4199

Stage Change for I-55/Lake Shore Drive Interchange Reconstruction Project

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that nightly lane and ramp closures will take place on the inbound Stevenson Expressway (Interstate 55) for a stage change as part of the ongoing Interstate 55/Lake Shore Drive (U.S. 41) Interchange Reconstruction Project, in Chicago, beginning, weather permitting, Wednesday, August 24.

The stage change will require the following overnight lane and ramp closures on Wednesday, Aug. 24 and Thursday, Aug. 25:

- Beginning at 10 p.m., the northbound Stevenson entrance ramp from State Street and the northbound Stevenson exit ramp to Martin Luther King Drive will be closed until 5 a.m. the next morning.
- Beginning at midnight, the right lane on the northbound Stevenson will be closed until 5 a.m. the next morning.
- Intermittent stops will occur on the northbound Stevenson from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m.

Beginning at 1 a.m. on Friday, August 26, the ramp from the northbound Stevenson to southbound Lake Shore Drive will be closed until 5 a.m. A detour will direct northbound traffic on the Stevenson to take the ramp to northbound Lake Shore Drive, exit at 18th Street and enter southbound Lake Shore Drive.

In the new traffic pattern, the ramps from the northbound Stevenson Expressway to northbound and southbound Lake Shore Drive will split further west from its current location, requiring motorists to choose a designated ramp sooner. The right lane on the northbound Stevenson Expressway will be shifted south after State Street and will exit to southbound Lake Shore Drive.

The overall project is expected to be completed in Fall 2017.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Click <u>here</u> to find details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at <u>www.travelmidwest.com</u>